



State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	On - going Fire Investigation Training: FI -210		
PROJECT LOCATION	4680 Golden Foothill Parkway, El Dorado Hills, CA Township 9N; Range 8E; Sec. 14 MDBM , Clarksville 7.5 Quad	COUNTY	El Dorado
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Thomas J. Tinsley, Unit Forester - Forester II		
ADDRESS	CAL FIRE's Amador-El Dorado Unit 2840 Mount Danaher Road, Camino, CA 95709	PHONE	530-647-5203

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

CAL FIRE and the El Dorado Hills Fire Department propose to use a 20 -acre area (4 parcels) to assist in the annual training of fire prevention officers in the proper procedures to determine the cause and origin of vegetation fires. Approximately 5 acres of vegetation will be treated each year. The project site is in El Dorado Hills, CA east of Sacramento on the south side of State Highway 50 and west of Latrobe Road, at 4680 Golden Foothill Parkway (El Dorado Hills FD, Station 87). Approximately ¼ of the property is developed containing Station 87 and associated infrastructure. The remaining area is grassland. Prior to burning operations, preparation of the area will consist of hand crew construction of 3 foot wide fire control lines around all identified burn plots. A type 3 fire engine will be present during all burning operations. The topography is generally flat with slopes ranging from 0 to 6% and the area is completely vegetated with grasses. No watercourses exist on or adjacent to the proposed project. No known occurrences or habitat of threatened, rare or endangered species occur in or adjacent to the project area. The training will consist of burning small sections within the control line perimeter over the course of the week long training in late spring/early summer as conditions and schedules permit. This NOE will cover annual on-going fire investigation training for 10 years. The AEU Environmental Coordinator will survey the project area each year prior to training to confirm the presence or absence of threatened and/or endangered species. In 2025 CAL FIRE will re-assess the environmental setting and amend the CEQA file for this project, as appropriate.

EXEMPTION STATUS


- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 15304 Minor Alterations to Land
☐ Statutory Exemption (state code section):
☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

CALFIRE staff conducted an environmental review to confirm that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. This review included an on-the-ground field inspection by the Unit Forester and Regional Water Quality Control Board Environmental Scientist Tal Robinson, consultation with a CALFIRE State Archaeologist familiar with the property via on the ground inspection in previous years and consultation via email with representatives of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and Regional Water Quality Control Board. None of these three experts (Archaeology, DFW or WQ) expressed any concerns with the proposed project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at AEU Unit Headquarters in Camino.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING



 3/24/15
Duane Shintaku, Deputy Director Date
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection